Application No. 10/601171

1-60 **(Canceled)**

61. **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising an amount of a monoclonal antibody effective to treat neonates having a staphylococcal infection and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the antibody ~~having binding specificity~~ specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of Lipoteichoic acid (LTA) of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of about 10^{-8} M or higher and is of the IgG isotype ~~and a~~, wherein the antibody ~~i)~~ binds to ~~both coagulase positive and coagulase negative Staphylococci, ii)~~ and enhances opsonization of ~~Gram positive bacteria~~ multiple serotypes of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, coagulase negative staphylocci and *Staphylococcus aureus* by phagocytic cells ~~over background~~ with or without complement as compared to an appropriate control in an in vitro opsonization assay~~, and iii) confers a statistically significant enhancement of survival or reduces bacteremia in an animal model, wherein the composition is formulated for pharmaceutical administration~~

62. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61, wherein the opsonization assay is performed in the presence of complement, phagocytic cells, or both.

63. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 62, wherein the complement or cells or both are human in origin

64. **(Canceled)**

65. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 62, wherein the phagocytic cells comprise macrophages, monocytes, neutrophils, or combinations thereof

66 **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 62, wherein opsonization is measured by determining opsonophagocytic bactericidal activity.

67. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61, wherein the antibody is capable of binding to LTA of Gram positive bacteria fixed to a solid support.

68. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 67, wherein the solid support is a plate well, bead, or micro-bead.

69. **(Canceled)**

70-76. **(Canceled)**

77. **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody ~~has binding specificity to LTA~~ comprises~~, wherein at least one heavy chain variable region or light chain variable region of the antibody has at least 70% amino acid identity with at least one heavy or light chain variable region of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 MAB and a carrier~~ the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the heavy and light chain variable regions of monoclonal antibody 96-110 set forth as SEQ ID NO:87 and SEQ ID NO:89.

78. **(Canceled)**

79. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody comprises a portion of a human antibody sequence.

80 **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 79, wherein the portion of human antibody sequence comprises an Fc region.

81. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody specifically binds LTA exposed on the surface of the cell wall of Gram positive bacteria.

82-85. **(Canceled)**

86. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 85, wherein the antibody binds to serotype 5, serotype 8, or both serotype 5 and serotype 8 of *Staphylococcus aureus*.

87. **(Currently Amended)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody additionally specifically binds to LTA of ~~*Staphylococcus epidermidis* and~~ one or more Gram positive bacteria selected from the group consisting of ~~*Staphylococcus aureus,*~~ *Streptococcus mutans*, *Streptococcus faecalis*, and *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

88-90. **(Canceled)**

91. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or77, wherein the antibody reduces LTA-mediated inflammation, LTA-mediated cytokine production, or combination thereof.

92. **(Canceled)**

93. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 77, wherein the antibody is an Fab, Fab', F(ab')2, or sFv fragment of an antibody.

94. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or77, further comprising at least one additional monoclonal antibody having specificity for LTA.

95 **(Currently Amended)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an antibody of claim 61 or 77, for use in a human neonate.

96 **(Withdrawn)** A polynucleotide encoding an antibody, or fragment thereof, of claim 61, 77, or 88.

97. **(Withdrawn)** The polynucleotide of claim 96, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the variable region of the antibody, or fragment thereof, has at least 70% identity to the polynucleotide set forth in FIG. 12.

98. **(Withdrawn)** A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 96.

99. **(Withdrawn)** A cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 96 or the vector of claim 98.

100. **(Withdrawn)** An antibody, or fragment thereof, produced by a cell comprising a polynucleotide or vector comprising a polypeptide encoding an antibody of claim 61 or 77.

101. **(Currently Amended)** The composition of claim 61, wherein the antibody is of the ~~IgG~~ IgG1 isotype.

102-103. **(Canceled)**

104. **(New)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises the heavy chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO.87.

105. **(New)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises the light chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:89.

106. **(New)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises a heavy chain comprising the heavy chain complementarity

determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 and a variable region having 80% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

107 **(New)** The composition of claim 106, wherein the variable region has 85% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO 87

108. **(New)** The composition of claim 106, wherein the variable region has 90% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

109 **(New)** The composition of claim 106, wherein the variable region has 95% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

110. **(New)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises a light chain comprising the light chain complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 and a variable region having 80% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO 89

111. **(New)** The composition of claim 110, wherein the variable region has 85% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

112. **(New)** The composition of claim 110, wherein the variable region has 90% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

113. **(New)** The composition of claim 110, wherein the variable region has 95% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

114. **(New)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody i) specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, ii) binds

to and enhances opsonization of multiple serotypes of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, coagulase negative staphylococci, and *Staphylococcus aureus* by phagocytic cells with or without complement as compared to an appropriate control in an in vitro opsonization assay, and iii) comprises a heavy chain comprising the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 heavy chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:87 and having at least 70% amino acid identity with the monoclonal antibody 96-110 heavy chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:87.

115. **(New)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody i) specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of 10^{-8} M or higher, ii) binds to and enhances opsonization of multiple serotypes of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, coagulase negative staphylococci, and *Staphylococcus aureus* by phagocytic cells with or without complement as compared to an appropriate control in an in vitro opsonization assay, and iii) comprises a light chain comprising the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 light chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:89 and having at least 70% amino acid identity with the monoclonal antibody 96-110 light chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:89.